

terrorists as equally responsible. In my view, there is no separation. The full weight of the United States military should be brought down on all those responsible for the murder of our fellow Americans.

God bless America.

CONDEMNING ATTACK AGAINST OUR COUNTRY AND ITS CITIZENS

(Mr. RUSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you this morning as a man proud to be an American; proud because of the extraordinary spirit that resides in the hearts and minds of the people of this great Nation.

Yesterday our Nation was attacked. Thousands of hardworking men and women in New York City and here at the Pentagon left their homes to put in an honest day's work and they were viciously attacked; attacked by cowardly individuals who deliberately sought to strike at the innocent.

In spite of the ugliness of this tragedy, I witnessed the beauty of the American spirit rising Phoenix-like out of the ashes; beauty that was demonstrated by those who were attacked, those who rescued, and those who led; beauty that was demonstrated in the form of strength of character, unity in spirit, and a willing spirit.

I believe that today, because of our pain, America is stronger than it has ever been. God bless America.

AMERICA WILL PREVAIL AGAINST THIS ADVERSITY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. The book of Proverbs tells us that the test of gold is fire, but the test of man is adversity. Today, America is being tested one more time. But just as we in the past have faced the adversities of war, disease and depression, we will prevail.

Yesterday, in the ever-present age-old battle between good and evil, it appears that evil stole the lives and safety of our citizens; and yet it can never steal our resolve, our ideals, and our love of freedom.

Today, Congress and the American people are back at work. Tomorrow, we will seek justice; and the bell of freedom will ring once more loudly all over the globe.

CONDEMNATION OF BRUTAL ACTS; ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMERICAN HEROES

(Ms. WATSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON of California. Yesterday was an emergency 911 call for

every American in this Nation, black, white, Latino, Jew, Gentile, Christian, and non-Christian, to stand united in our utter condemnation of these brutal and inhuman acts.

Clearly, it is too early to identify with precision the source of the terrorist attack. But I am confident, with all of our resources brought together in the coming weeks and months, with our intelligence, law enforcement and military agencies, we will be able to piece together a coherent and credible story; and we will act precisely.

In closing, my prayers go out to the hundreds, thousands, perhaps millions of Americans who have been directly affected by these terrorist acts. In addition, the courageous acts of rescue workers, volunteers, our fire and police departments must be acknowledged and praised. It is now time to honor them all. We are all and they are all true American heroes.

A DAY OF MOURNING AND OF RESOLUTION

(Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of prayer and mourning for America, the victims, and their loved ones. But it is also a day of resolution. We are resolved to bring those responsible for this atrocity to justice, swift and sure, and make clear that America, that freedom itself, will never be held hostage to terror.

With a fresh awareness of all our vulnerability, we must move forward to secure our Nation. With hope that cannot be defeated, we must turn toward the best within us, put aside our differences, respond to the continuing crisis, and begin the process of rebuilding. May God bless America.

UNCONSCIONABLE ACT; IMMEASURABLE LOSS

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. What happened yesterday is beyond words and beyond comprehension. The act was unconscionable. The loss is immeasurable.

Many, many people in my district, which is right across the river from New York City, have lost someone they cared about, a friend, a family member, or just someone they knew. To my friends and neighbors and constituents back home in New Jersey, let me say we will get through this together. That spirit is demonstrated by the hundreds right now back at home seeking to give blood and volunteer.

To my fellow countrymen and women from every part of our great land, because there is no doubt that this was an act of war against all of America, let me say we stand as one, united against our enemies, united for the

things we believe in, liberty, freedom and justice.

May God bless us and help us through these difficult times.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair desires to announce that following the declaration of recess today, Members are invited to attend a classified briefing here in the Chamber during the recess.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair, and the Chamber will be cleared of all unauthorized personnel or guests.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1453

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) at 2 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR PRAYER VIGIL IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 223) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a prayer vigil in memory of those who lost their lives in the events of September 11, 2001, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and obviously I will not nor do I intend to object, but I want to reserve the right to object so the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) can kindly explain the purpose of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 223 permits the use of the Capitol rotunda for a prayer vigil in memory of those who lost their lives in yesterday's tragic act of terrorism against the United States.

This country has suffered the most terrible and horrific terrorist attack in its history. Although we still do not